Towards perpetual flourishing of Union Spirit

The State Peace and Development Council has taken lessons from history in which the national strength was derived from national unity, and national weakness and backwardness were the result of the loss of national solidarity. It has laid down the national policy — non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty and has been strengthening national unity, with the national re-consolidation and the perpetual flourishing of Union Spirit as the objective.

Senior General Than Shwe
Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council
Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services
(From the message sent to the 57th Anniversary Union Day)

Senior General Than Shwe inspects Mawlamyine Railway Station Project, Padomma Soap Factory

YANGON, 8 Feb—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by SPDC members General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thih Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Mon State PDC Chairman South-East Command Commander Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, ministers, senior military officers, and officials of the SPDC Office, inspected the Mawlamyine Railway Station Project in Mawlamyine yesterday.

They were welcomed there by Minister for Rail Transportation Maj-Gen Aung Min, Deputy Minister U Pe Than and officials. Maj-Gen Aung Min reported on the site chosen for the construction of the approach railroad to the Thanlwin Bridge (Mawlamyine), tasks being carried out sector-wise by Public Works and the Myanmar Railways, the construction of the ASEAN standard railroad, work progress, and the building of the Mawlamyine Railway Station; and Construction Minister Maj-Gen Saw Tun, on completion in building 62 out of 179 pillars of the approach road.

In response, the Senior General provided assistance for the project, and gave guidance on speedy implementation of the construction tasks by the Ministry of Rail Transportation and the Ministry of Construction for speedy completion of the station, the approach road and the railroad, and arrangements for ensuring smooth transport for the people to be able to travel by train from Yangon to Dawei within 12 hours.

Next, the Senior General observed the blueprint of the station and approach roads, the construction of the station, stockpiling of the materials for the project, and progress of laying rails.

So far, 4.25 out of 6.19 miles of the earthworks of two approach roads to the bridge have been completed, and six out of 15 bridges on the approach roads have been constructed.

(See page 6)
**IN Ma-Inngu earth road in Thegon Township opened**

**YANGON, 8 Feb**—As a gesture of hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day, the Inma-Inngu earth road in Inma Village, Thegon Township, Bago Division, was opened on 5 February morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by Joint Commissioner of Bago Division General Administration Department U Pe Thant, Deputy Commissioner of Pyay District GAD U Ba Win and departmental officials, social organizations and local people.

Joint Commissioner U Pe Thant made a speech on the occasion and Deputy Commissioner U Ba Win reported on measures taken for opening of the road.

Next, Joint Commissioner U Pe Thant, Deputy Commissioner U Ba Win and Inma Village USDA member U Aung Than Kyaw formally opened the road.

The two-mile long road was built at a cost of K 2.2 million—K 1 million contributed by the people and K 1.2 million by the government.—**MNA**

**Coord meeting on production development held**

**YANGON, 8 Feb**—A coordination meeting on production development of Cottage Industries Department under the Ministry of Cooperatives was held at the CID (Headquarters) in North Okkalapa Township yesterday morning.

Present on the occasion were Minister for Cooperatives Col Zaw Min and directors-general and officials of related cooperatives societies.

**IPRD marks its 14th anniversary**

**Minister Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan presents gift to an outstanding employee.—**MNA

**Rural development affairs inspected in Magway Div**

**Director-General Col Myo Myint views the sinking of a tube-well. —**MNA

**Pyay road to be closed during Union Day ceremony**

**YANGON, 8 Feb**—Authorities concerned have already announced that Pyay road between Ahlon and Shim Saw Pu Streets will be temporarily closed to traffic from 6 am to 9 am while the 58th Anniversary Union Day is being held on 12 February.—**MNA**

**UMFFCCI President’s Trophy Golf Tournament held**

**YANGON, 8 Feb**—The Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce and Industry held its fourth president’s trophy golf tournament and prize presentation ceremony in Panhlhaing Golf Course on 6 February morning. Altogether 160 golfers took part in the tournament.

The prize presentation ceremony was held at Yuzana Hotel at 7 pm on that day. During the ceremony, President of UMFFCCI U Win Myint delivered an address and Chairman of Sports Committee U Tun Aung (Taw Win Tun Company) explained the purpose to hold the tournament. Next, officials presented prizes to winners. Well-wishers rendering assistance to the tournament were presented certificates of honour.—**MNA**

**People’s Desire**

- Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

**YANGON**

**Wednesday, 9 February, 2005**

**Keep on working in concert to raise momentum of development**

The government of Myanmar is fulfilling all the requirements in economic, social and transport sectors for peace, stability and development of the Union and at the same time paving the way for the emergence of a discipline-flourishing democracy in accordance with the historical background of the nation and traditions and culture of its people.

It is obvious that the political, economic and social conditions of present-day Myanmar, compared with those before 1988, has made remarkable strides. It is not only because the Tatmadaw Government, never losing sight of interests of the nation and the people, has always systematically implemented the carefully-drawn plans but also the entire national people have always cooperated with the government in all the national endeavours.

Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, in his meeting with responsible personnel in Mon and Kayin States on 5 February, said that the government was fulfilling all the requirements for the development of various regions in the Union and that only with regional development would national development be possible and so it was necessary to put our energies into all regional and national endeavours. In striving for the development of the nation, we should do so on a self-help basis. Moreover, government employees should always be in oneness with the people and dedicate themselves to rural and regional development tasks for higher living standard of the people.

As agriculture is the mainstay of the national economy, it is necessary to strive for the development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well. With all-round development of economic sectors the national economy will become a reality and per capita income will rise. Per capita income was 1940 kyats in 1988 but it has now risen to 160,000 kyats.

While the government is making constant efforts for continued social and economic progress of the nation, we would like to call on all those responsible and the entire national people to work in concert with the government to raise the momentum of development.

Inma-Inngu earth road in Thegon Township opened

**YANGON, 8 Feb**—As a gesture of hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day, the Inma-Inngu earth road in Inma Village, Thegon Township, Bago Division, was opened on 5 February morning.

The opening ceremony was attended by Joint Commissioner of Bago Division General Administration Department U Pe Thant, Deputy Commissioner of Pyay District GAD U Ba Win and departmental officials, social organizations and local people.

Joint Commissioner U Pe Thant made a speech on the occasion and Deputy Commissioner U Ba Win reported on measures taken for opening of the road.

Next, Joint Commissioner U Pe Thant, Deputy Commissioner U Ba Win and Inma Village USDA member U Aung Than Kyaw formally opened the road.

The two-mile long road was built at a cost of K 2.2 million—K 1 million contributed by the people and K 1.2 million by the government.—**MNA**
China launches ecological improvement for Tarim River

KASHGAR March 2— China is endeavouring to put an end to the ecological degradation of its longest inland river, the Tarim, in western Xinjiang, since the central government launched a comprehensive ecological control programme for the Tarim in 2001, at a cost of approximately 10.7 billion yuan (1.3 billion US dollars).

Called as the ‘mother river’ by ethnic people in the Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, the 1,321-kilometre Tarim boasts water resources of 42.9 billion cubic metres. Its valley covers an area of 1.02 million square kilometres. Over the past 2,000 years, this strategic water source has played an unprecedented economic role. It has become an important production base for cotton, fruit, oil and petrochemicals.

In the late 20th Century, however, the Tarim River Valley began to experience ecological deterioration, eventually prompting government action. The programme hopes to see significant results within 10 years. The 10.7 billion yuan will go to nine major projects, which are scheduled for completion in 2008. The projects involve underground water development, waterway harnessing and ecological restoration and conservation, according to regional government officials.— MNA/Xinhua

32 killed in Iraq attacks as suicide bombers target police

MOSSUL, 7 Feb— At least 23 people were killed on Monday when a suicide bomber lured a group of Iraqi policemen into a trap in Mosul and another blew up a car alongside some policemen in Baquba.

Another nine Iraqis, including an eight-year-old child, died in other attacks, security sources said. It was the deadliest day for security forces in Iraq since the 30 January elections, which Washington said delivered a blow to the country’s insurgency.

Militants loyal to Iraq’s most wanted man, Islamic extremist Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, claimed the suicide attacks in statements on the Internet. Policemen were waiting to collect their wages at the main hospital in the northern Sunni insurgent bastion of Mosul when the bomber struck, said police. “The bomber was wearing a long coat. He called the young men over to him to gather around him and he set off the bomb,” said Colonel Saad Aniz. The victims included police who were due to be paid in the Mosul hospital complex. The relatively high wage is one reason the police have been able to find a steady stream of recruits despite the guerrilla threat.— Internet

Earthquake jolts Nicobar Island

HONG KONG, 7 Feb— An earthquake measuring 5.5 on the Richter Scale hit the area near the Nicobar Island, India, at 1:41 am on Hong Kong Time Sunday (1741 GMT Saturday).

According to the Hong Kong Observatory Sunday, the epicenter was initially determined to be in the vicinity of the Nicobar Island about 340 kilometres northwest of Banda Aceh, Indonesia.— MNA/Xinhua

Wen Jiaobao’s New year address highlights building a harmonious society

Beijing, 8 Feb— Chinese Premier Wen Jiaobao highlighted on Monday the task of building a harmonious society in his address to a gathering in celebration of the Lunar New Year.

At the gathering, presided over by Chinese President Hu Jintao, Wen extended festival greetings to people of all ethnic groups in China, reviewed China’s significant achievements in 2004, and listed the tasks for 2005.

The premier vowed to build a harmonious society featuring the rule of law, equity, justice, sincerity, amity, and vitality, saying this strategy task reflects the common aspiration of the Chinese people who are building a better life.

Such a harmonious society will give full scope to people’s intelligence and creativity, enable all the people to share the social wealth created in reform and development, and forge an even closer relationship between the people and government, and result in lasting stability and unity, Wen said.

HK citizens urged to join city-wide cleaning for Lunar New Year

HONG KONG, 7 Feb— Hong Kong Director of Home Affairs Pamela Tan on Sunday called on the public to join forces with government in the cleaning operation and maintaining environmental hygiene to prevent diseases.

To welcome the Year of the Rooster with a clean environment, cleaning operations have been taking place in 18 districts since last week. Participating in one of these cleaning activities in the Central and Western district Sunday afternoon, Tan cheered volunteers as they carried out cleaning work in a tenement building. She also helped distribute cleaning materials to the residents living nearby.

Tan expressed her gratitude to some 5,000 volunteers, including district councillors, District Clean Hong Kong Committee members, district hygiene squads and Mutual Aid Committee members, for their ardent support in the year-end clean-ups.— MNA/Xinhua

Road accidents claim 17 in Malaysia

KUALA LUMPUR, 7 Feb— Seventeen people died in road accidents across Malaysia on Saturday, raising to 50 the number killed on the road since “the Attitude Action” went into operation four days ago, according to an official statement on Sunday.

Malaysia Police Headquarters’ Public Relations Unit head Mohamad Daud said in the statement that the 17 deaths occurred in 14 fatal accidents that were reported throughout the country.

Six of the deaths occurred on federal roads, five on urban roads, and two each on state roads, highways and other roads, he said. He also said that 847 road accidents were recorded Saturday whereby urban roads had the highest number of 406 followed by federal roads, were recorded Saturday whereby urban roads had the highest number of 406 followed by federal roads, highways (185), state roads (151), highways (67) and other roads (38).— MNA/Xinhua

Martin says Canada has no plans to send troops to Iraq

OTTAWA, 7 Feb— Ottawa has no intention of sending Canadian troops to Iraq, Prime Minister Paul Martin said Monday.

Prime Minister Martin announced Monday that House of Commons reports have suggested that the United States wants Canada to send a small group of soldiers to Iraq, triggering questions in the House of Commons.

NDP leader Jack Layton demanded during question period that Martin hold a vote in the House before troops might be sent. But Martin went one better, saying no vote was necessary because no soldiers would be committed to the troubled Middle East nation.

“We refused to send Canadian troops to Iraq two years ago. That decision stands,” Martin told the Commons. “Canadian soldiers will not be going to Iraq.”

The issue of foreign troops serving in Iraq is expected to be on the agenda when Martin travels to Brussels later this month for a NATO summit.— Internet

A US soldier from the 1st Battalion, 24th Infantry Regiment secures a street during a patrol in a residential area, in the restive northern Iraqi city of Mosul, 370km of Baghdad, on 7 Feb, 2005.— Internet

A Chinese musician plays the drum during a ceremony to start the Chinese New Year celebrations in a park in Beijing on 8 Feb, 2005.— Internet

THE NEW LIGHT OF MYANMAR Wednesday, 9 February, 2005
**Constitutionally, the Union guarantees the following principles: to draft a constitution that firmly guarantees the flourishing of Union Spirit and non-disintegration of Union.**

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**Yangon, 8 Feb —**

Local people, members of Union Solidarity and Development Association and other social organizations, and departmental personnel hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention at a meeting held at Kawparan model village in Mudon Township, Mawlamyine District, Mon State, on 6 February.

Speaking on the occasion, Meeting Chairman Mawlamyine District USDA Secretary Dr Toe Aung said that this year’s February has two significant days — the Union Day will be observed on 12 and National Convention will resume on 17 this month.

Myanmar people held the Panglong Conference on 12 February 1947 to strengthen national unity for regaining independence. The National Convention has been held to draft a constitution an essential requirement for the nation. Eight categories of delegates — delegates of political parties, delegates of representatives-elect, delegates of national races, delegates of peasants, delegates of workers, delegates of intellectuals and intelligentsia, delegates of State service personnel and other invited delegates — have been attending the convention.

The Convention has already laid down the 104 basic principles to draw a constitution that firmly guarantees the flourishing of Union Spirit and non-disintegration of the Union. Thus all will have to strive for the success of the National Convention.

Mudon Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association member Daw Hla Htaik Maw said that since many years ago, Myanmar races have been living in unity sharing joys and sorrows together. Thanks to the vision and farsightedness of the national leaders, Myanmar regained her independence with national unity. But the colonialist legacy had left behind armed conflicts in the nation that lasted for over 40 years. Thus, all should take the lessons of backwardness. All will have to lay sound foundations of unity to foster Union Spirit and strengthen national unity. The nation has used K 60,279 million — K 30,856 million from the National Convention, and K 29,422 million from the respective ministries.

Member of Mudon Township Women’s Affairs Organization Daw Than Shwe Sin Htaik tabled a motion hailing the National Convention. She emphatically supported the forthcoming the National Convention to be held on 17 February.

Next, Executive of Mawlamyine District USDA Daw Thin Thin Mon reported on measures undertaken for rural development in the district.

Executive U Min Lun Aung of Mawlamyine District USDA seconded the motions of three delegates.

Executive U Thet Hwe of Mawlamyine District USDA presented K 1.5 million for renovation of primary school to Chairman of Kamaoak Village Peace and Development Council U Maw Myint.

Executive Dr Aung Kyaw Tun presented K 500,000 each for renovation of Wekali primary school and sinking of a tube well to Village PDC Chairmen U Shwe Tin and U Thaung Nyein.

Later, the presiding chairman passed resolutions of the rally after seeking the approval of those present, and the rally came to an end with the chanting of slogans.

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**Mass rally in progress at Kawparan model village, Mudon Township, Mawlamyine District. — MNA**

**Katha District holds Union Day ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention.**

**Katha, 8 Feb —**

A ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention was held at Kyaukhtongyi village in Katha Township, Katha District, Sagaing Division, on 6 February.

Meeting Chairman Katha Township USDA Joint Secretary U Soe Soe gave a speech. Katha District USDA Executive Daw Myint Myint Thein discussed matters in support of Union Day, Katha Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association Executive Daw Win Win in support of the National Convention and Wuntho Township USDA Joint Secretary U Soe Paing in support of the rural development tasks.

Katha Township USDA Secretary U Khin Maung Lwin seconded the three motions.

USDA members of Katha, Kawlin, Htgayint, Pinlebu, Banmauk, Wuntho and Indaw towns in Katha District, local authorities, departmental personnel, members of Maternal Child Welfare Association, organizations for Women’s Affairs, Red Cross, fire brigades and War Veterans Organization and local people numbering over 3,500 attending the meeting unanimously hailed the Union Day, and supported the National Convention and rural development task.

The meeting concluded with chanting of slogans.

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**Mawlamyine District Secretary Dr Toe Toe Aung. — MNA**

**Katha District holds mass rally at Kyaukhtongyi village, Katha Township, Katha District. — MNA**

**Mawlamyine, 8 Feb —**

Members of social organizations and locals marching to the mass rally. — MNA

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**Members of the panel of chairmen at the meeting in Mawlamyine District. — MNA**
Langkho District hails Union Day, supports National Convention

LANGKHO — Langkho District held a mass rally to hail Union Day and support the National Convention at the Town Hall of Langkho Township, Langkho District, Shan State on 6 February morning.

Present on the occasion were secretaries and members of USDA from the district, townships and villages, members of War Veterans Organizations, Women’s Affairs Committees, Maternal and Child Welfare Associations, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades and others numbering 650.

Secretary of Langkho Township USDA U Sai San Win presided over the meeting together with Langkho Township WVO Chairman U Than Nyunt, Langkho District Women’s Affairs Committee Chairperson Daw Tin Tin Oihn, Joint Secretary of Langkho District Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Khin Hnin Yi and U Sai Hsan of Langkho.

Langkho Township USDA Executive Daw Nan Moe Khan acted as MC and Maukmai Township USDA Executive Daw Ei Thanda Maung as co-MC.

Those present on the occasion saluted the State Flag.

Next, Secretary of Langkho District USDA U Sai San Win made a speech.

Matters on honouring the Union Day, supporting the National Convention, and regional development tasks were presented.

Later, Langkho District USDA Joint Secretary U Sai Kyaw Htaw seconded the three motions.

The meeting hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention.

The meeting came to an end with the chanting of slogans. — MNA

Union Day Flag

* At dawn
The red Victory Flag, flutters in the breeze
It lifts and titillates my heart.

* Even though we fell into the mire of slavehood
We repulsed, strove to be free
What was once gold mosaic became firewood
But that firewood turned into a conflagration
Consumed itself and scared the intruder
For regaining Independence, life and blood
Were sacrificed and we didn’t give in
The Flag bears testimony.

* Moreover, blood brothers, true kin
Got together, held hands firm
And to regain, our Independence
Unity and our independence
Untangling, to be in solidarity
The Flag gave us guidance

* O, citizens all, beware
The old cat, with short tail
As is said, will consume the fat and eat the meat
The mad colonialist, who once befriended us
As is said, will consume the fat and eat the meat
Who found it sweet to eat and tasty when swallowed
Still finds the thought salivating
To divide our nation, throughout
To divide our nation, throughout
Still wants to turn things around, divide
And to regain, our Independence

* O, at dawn
The red Victory Flag, flutters in the breeze
It lifts and titillates my heart.
Senior General Than Shwe

inspects Mawlamyine . . .

(from page 1)

The area of the station is 4,000 feet long and 1,000 feet wide with 19 railroads. On completion, the station will be 288 feet long and 110 feet wide and up to now, 75 per cent of the construction has finished.

The Senior General viewed the work progress and proceeded to Padomma Soap Factory near Thebyugon village in Paung Township. Lt-Gen Tin Aye gave an account of the purpose of the establishment of the factory, the area and the cost of the construction of the factory, annual profit, kinds of the products, and distribution of the items.

The Senior General gave guidance, saying that steps are to be taken for the items to gain a firm foothold in the markets, and for production of a variety of quality soap. Means and ways are to be sought for manufacturing a wide range of export-quality soap, and distribution of the goods in local market at reasonable prices.

In conclusion, the Senior General called for systematic sharing of duties for greater achievement.

Next, they viewed the production process at the factory which was put into service on 23-3-2003.

In the afternoon, the Senior General inspected progress of Mudon. The Senior General arrived back here via Mawlamyine.

Minister for Agriculture and Irrigation Maj-Gen

Htay Oo, who accompanied the Senior General, on 6 February inspected the Perennial Crops Research Division under the Myanma Perennial Crops Enterprise near Phar-awk village, Mawlamyine Township.

Minister for Information Brig-Gen Kyaw Hsan on 6 February inspected Mawlamyine District Information and Public Relations Department. The minister also held a meeting with the staff. After that, he visited the TV retransmission station in Mawlamyine.

Similarly, Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Thein Nyunt inspected the chosen site for construction of a vocational training centre for women, and the arrangements for conducting the courses.

MNA

Yangon, 8 Feb—Central Panel of Patrons of Myanmar War Veterans Organization Member Taninthayi Division Peace and Development Council Chairman Coastal Region Command Commander Maj-Gen Ohn Myint and MWVO Central Organizing Committee member Minister for Livestock and Fishery Brig-Gen Maung Maung Thein held a meeting with Kawthoung WVO members in Kawthoung on 4 February, and presented K 2 million for setting up a fund of District WVO.

On the morning of 5 February, the commander and the minister inspected the jetty of the Golden Panda Co in Ayeyawadyin ward in Kawthoung. They visited Pyidawaye Pagoda in Annawa ward and offered alms to Township Sangha Nayaka Committee Chairman Aungchantha Sayadaw Bhaddanta Panlasami. They inspected the environs of the statue of King Bayinnaung and the view point, and Kawthoung People’s Hospital.

They met service personnel, town elders, and members of social organizations in Maryan village, Khamaukkyi, Kawthoung District. K 3 million donated by the State, K 1 million by the commander and the minister, and K 2 million by the wellwishers for construction of a Maryan affiliated basic education middle school to were presented the headmistress and an official.

Then, they viewed Parchan jetty and dealt with conservation of Parchan preserved forest and security measures and looked into the site for construction of the school.

On 6 February, they inspected the cold storage of Annawa Soe Co Ltd in Wahgyun village in Bokpyin Township, Wahgyun post-primary school and self-reliant library.

In the afternoon, they viewed the construction of the archway of Myeik Maha Siddhijaya Pagoda, the ordination hall, and the Myeik Sasana Beikman. The minister accepted K 1 million donated by U Chin Teik-Daw Than Sein of Daweizu ward in Myeik.

MNA
58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition...
(from page 16)

and Development Affairs, Central Committee for Drug Abuse Control, Ministry of Mines, Ministry of Construction and present political and social developments. They were displayed with the aids of photos and painting.

Computer quiz and language lab contests will also be held daily. Prizes will be given to basic education schools.

The exhibition will open to the public daily from 9 am to 5 pm at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall till 16 February. — MNA

Chairman of Union Day Organizing Management Committee meets Union Day representatives

YANGON, 8 Feb—Chairman of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Organizing Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe met members of national race cultural troupes from states and divisions and representatives of Union Solidarity and Development Association, who are here to attend the 58th Anniversary Union Day ceremony and dinner at No 1 Transit Centre on Bayintnaung Road a 4 pm today.

Also present on the occasion were members of the Management Committee and officials.

On the occasion, Chairman of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Organizing Management Committee Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Myint Swe greeted members of national race cultural troupes from states and divisions and representatives of Union Solidarity and Development Association individually and left the venue in the evening. — MNA

Union Day delegates tour Yangon

YANGON, 8 Feb—The members of cultural troupes of the national races and the Union Solidarity and Development Association from States and Divisions made an excursion tour of Yangon today.

They are the 58th Anniversary Union Day delegates on a visit here to attend the 58th Anniversary Union Day commemorative dinner.

They visited the Memorial to Fallen Heroes and laid a wreath and paid tribute to the fallen heroes.

Next, they visited the Shwedagon Pagoda and made cash donations to the pagoda funds. — MNA

Myeik District commemorates Union Day, hails National Convention

YANGON, 8 Feb—A mass rally to commemorate Union Day and support the National Convention took place at Kyweku model village in Myeik Township, Myeik District, Taninthayi Division, yesterday morning.

It was attended by Division USDA Secretary U Kyaw Kyaw Htay, secretaries, executives, and members of USDA of Myeik District and townships, townswelders, members of Myanmar War Veterans Organization, Myanmar Women’s Affairs Federation, Myanmar Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross Society and auxiliary fire brigade and locals numbering more than 2,700.

Myeik District Secretary Dr Kyaw Hsan chaired the meeting together with District WVO Chairman U Thein Soe, District MCWA President Dr San San, District Organization for Women’s Affairs Daw Swe Swe and townswelder U Hla Win of Sandawut village-tract. District Executive Daw Aye Aye Min emceed the rally together with Myeik Township Executive Daw Nilar Myint.

The meeting chairman delivered a speech.

Palaw Township Secretary U Aung Myint tabled a motion, calling for honouring of Union Day. Kyunsu Township Secretary U Win Shein tabled a motion, calling for supporting the National Convention. Taninthayi Township Secretary U Htin Paw proposed a motion, calling for rural development tasks being carried out in Myeik District. Myeik Township Secretary U Moe Myint seconded the motions. The meeting chairman sought the approval of the attendees. Those presented chanted the slogans, and it brought the meeting to an end. — MNA
**Table A**

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<th>12-2-05</th>
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<td>Total production (basket)</td>
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**Table B**

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<td>18944</td>
<td>18944</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- tons of cargo</td>
<td>4400</td>
<td>4400</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- miles of cargo transport</td>
<td>186.9</td>
<td>186.9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- stations</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Airports</strong></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- above 5000 ft runway</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- under 5000 ft runway</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Water transport</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- jetty</td>
<td>2130</td>
<td>4105</td>
<td>1975</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- gravel road</td>
<td>50/4</td>
<td>205/4</td>
<td>200/4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bridge</strong></td>
<td>142</td>
<td>198</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- above 180 feet long</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- lower 180 feet long</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Table E**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>12-2-05</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td><strong>Land resource</strong></td>
<td>536904</td>
<td>76860</td>
<td>139956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- sown acreage</td>
<td>926194</td>
<td>763929</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- acres of vacant and virgin land</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Irrigation</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- dam, lake, reservoir, canal</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- completed works</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- tasks under implementation</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- river water pumping tasks</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- completed works</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- tasks to be done</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- damming creeks</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>91701</td>
<td>91444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Benefited acre</td>
<td>3925</td>
<td>37201</td>
<td>33276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Extended paddy cultivation</strong></td>
<td>193317</td>
<td>325689</td>
<td>129272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- acres of monsoon paddy</td>
<td>55.18</td>
<td>65.35</td>
<td>10.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- per acre yield*</td>
<td>30000</td>
<td>30100</td>
<td>30100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- gross production</td>
<td>10282</td>
<td>65.81</td>
<td>65.81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- food sufficiency</td>
<td>22736</td>
<td>12454</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- 100%</td>
<td></td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- beans and pulses (acre)</td>
<td>6532</td>
<td>6532</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- in rubber plantation</td>
<td>88449</td>
<td>108147</td>
<td>19096</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- in palm plantation</td>
<td>16878</td>
<td>135825</td>
<td>118947</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- in pepper plantation</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>20923</td>
<td>20869</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Development in Taninthayi Division after 1988

New 200-bed general hospital in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.

Hailing the 58th Anniversary Union Day

The rig at block No-1 of Yadana gas field seen offshore Taninthayi coast.

Oil palm plantations are established in Kawthoung Township, Taninthayi Division for ensuring local edible oil sufficiency.

Kywek-Kyaukpya bridge is 3612 feet long and it lies in Myeik, Taninthayi Division.
Taninthayi Division marching to...

(from page 8)

The Government has been implementing projects to turn Chin State into a major tea-growing region. Rakhine State into a major pepper-growing region. Mon State into a major rubber-growing region. Sagaing division into the rice bowl of upper Myanmar, and Taninthayi Division them into an oil bowl. It is laying down long-term plans to meet the domestic edible oil demand, and has put

over 100,000 acres of land under oil palm in the Taninthayi Division to this date.

Emerging together with the development in oil palm cultivation of the division is the national entrepreneurs' tradition of adhering to the Government's policy and responding to its goodwill. Vast oil palm farms of the national entrepreneurs are emerging along the Union Highway in the division. Thus, the division will have an abundant supply of edible oil and rice and also natural gas from offshore gas fields. Rubber and pepper plantations are also being extended in the division. Table A has more.

Livestock and fisheries

The Government has been distributing quality strains, feedstuff and medicines and disseminating techniques to develop the meat and fish sector of the division. Because of the inclusion of the animal disease prevention project in the drive to promote the sector, the division's current meat production has increased three times greater than that of the past. Coastal and deep-sea fishing industry of the region is also gaining progress with greater momentum. Please see Table B to know the exact data.

Forest conservation

Concerning the forest sector, the Head of State has given guidance, saying, "Failure to protect and conserve the natural resources will be followed by ill effects in the long run. Destruction of forest resources will lead to destruction of land and water resources. Thus, it is important for all of us to conserve and protect them for long-term interest, instead of viewing only the short-term interest."

In accord with the table to know the ex-

reachable from other states and divisions. There is now an easy access by road from Putao in the northern point of the Union to Kawthoung in Taninthayi Division at the southern tip.

Dawei - Myeik - Thanithayi - Bokpyin - Kawthoung road has become an all-weather facility. The division now has over 689 miles of motor roads including over 410 miles of tarred roads. The present length of roads is 292 miles and two furlongs

become facilities that can handle landing and taking off of passenger jets. Four more wharves have been erected in the division. The division bordering Thailand in the east and touches the sea in the west is em-

thriving in a garden called the Union. Table E indicates the development of the communication sector of the division where the national brethren have been living in unity.

Electricity

Although it is rich in land and water resources, Taninthayi Division was like an ordinary flower without any hue throughout the past eras, as there was no one to develop the region.

soon, the 600-mega-
watt Taninthayi River hydel power plant, the 25-megawatt Thaikhun Creek hydel power station and the 20-megawatt Thakyet Creek hydel power station will emerge in the division.

The hydel power stations of the division will serve as the nation's strength in the future. Table F will tell the reader more about the electricity sector development of the region.

Industry

The industrial development pace of Taninthayi Division is gaining speed as the government encourages the efforts to realized the goal. Although there are just 19 enterprises in Myeik industrial zone, the investment has hit K 593.9 million, with a production value of over US$ 9 million and K 633.26 million. The number of factories related to marine resources, minerals, rubber and oil palm is likely to rise. Even now, the number of private factories has increased to 489 apart from existing

Subject | 1988 | 12-2-05 | Progress
--- | --- | --- | ---
electricity consumption maximum load | 3502 | 6616 | 3114
Increase of generating power | 4567 | 8718 | 4151 - implemented project | 1 | 3 | 2
- implementing project | 3 | 3 | 3
diesel power plant | 23 | 38 | 15
present capacity of generator | 7612 | 14531 | 6919
future capacity of generator | 7612 | 659531 | 651991

Table G

Subject | 1988 | 12-2.05 | Progress
--- | --- | --- | ---
Myeik Industrial Zone - works | 1 | 1 | 1
- private industries | 19 | 19 | 19
cottage industries | 820 | 489 | 489
State-owned industries | 72 | 72 | 72
14 | 12 | transfer

Table H

Subject | 1988 | 12.2.05 | Progress
--- | --- | --- | ---
Yedagon oil field (offshore) - Gas pipeline (mile) | 1 | 208.15 | 208.15
- crude oil production (barrel) | - | 2792723 | 2792723
- gas production (cubic feet) | - | 1022938.5 | 1022938.5

Table I

Subject | 1988 | 12-2-05 | Progress
--- | --- | --- | ---
Basic education - number of schools | 962 | 1132 | 170
- multimedia classroom | - | 51 | 51
- e-Learning Centre | - | 19 | 19
- number of teachers | 3451 | 6230 | 2799
- of teachers | 147070 | 267583 | 120513
- of students | 67.97% | 96.00% | 28.03%
- adult literacy rate | 80.18% | 98.30% | 18.12%
School dropout rate primary school level | 44.82% | 14.91% | (-330.42%)
- middle school level | 42.53% | 16.91% | (-272.62%)
Higher education - arts & science university | - | 2 | 2
- e-Learning Centre | - | 21 | 21
- academic programmes | 8 | 48 | 40
- number of teachers | 46 | 356 | 310
- number of students | 397 | 12035 | 11638
- Human resource development centre | - | 2 | 2

Table J

Subject | 1988 | 12-2-05 | Progress
--- | --- | --- | ---
Government Technological College (Dawei) - course numbers | 1 | 4 | 4
- number of students | 607 | 640 | 33
- number of teachers | 1 | 4 | 4
- students (graduate) | 90 | 90 | 90
- present students | 530 | 530 | 530
- present students | 431 | 431 | 431
Government Computer College (Dawei) - course numbers | 1 | 6 | 6
- number of students | 218 | 218 | 218
- students (graduate) | 467 | 467 | 467

(See page 11)
Taninthayi Division marching to...

(from page 10)

72 cottage industries and 12 State-owned factories. Table G shows industrial development of the division.

Mining and mineral resources

Taninthayi Division also consists Pate Yadana Myay or pearl land. After 1988, the production of pearls has increased by 105,470.57 moomme as pearl centres are now seven in number. The production of tin and tungsten reached 447.29 metric tons. The discovering of coal reserve resulted in the production of 119,162.83 metric tons of coal. The sand used for making of glass was found, and such kind of sand was produced 9,734.38 metric tons.

Energy

In the time of the Tatmadaw government, all the states and divisions in the Union are developing very rapidly so that it is difficult to say whose progress is greater than whose. All the flowers are now blooming as a result of the goodwill of the gardener whose wishes are to enable all the flowers to be in full bloom.

There have now emerged off-shore oil fields as if it seemed to be possible to create an aphorism that would go “Mottama is famous for the flowers to be in full bloom.

Yetagon, and Rakhine Yadana, Taninthayi for producing huge amount of gas fields. The gas fields as if it seemed to be inexhaustible exploitation till many a generation.

It will not be wrong to assume that such kind of sand was produced 9,734.38 metric tons.

Encouragement to come. Encouragement till many a generation.

The genuine goodwill that came out from the government has thus added new nation.

The government has thus added genuine goodwill that came out from the government.

The genuine goodwill that came out from the government.

With the growing economic and social infrastructures, Taninthayi Division has become a developed region. The gradual development of the living standard of local people can be seen in Table K.

Development areas and national races

Science and Technology

In the past, Yangon was the only place to pursue engineering. The same thing can be said of computer science. The number of students admitted to the then universities was limited. There were those whose dreams were broken for various reasons. Now, the doors to education are kept open to all in every favourable places. The government has helped the young in Taninthayi Division to enable them to have easy access to the branches of education like science and technology. They can be seen in Table J.

Table J

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>12-2-05</th>
<th>Progress</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| In this age, health has been given top priority. Hospitals are being built and upgraded across the country to carry out health care on an extensive scale. A new 200-bed hospital was built in the region, and the 100-bed hospital upgraded into the existing midwifery school, a nursing school was also constructed with the aim of producing more nurses within the region. Efforts are under way to bring about economic development of the whole Union. It is directly proportionate to regional stability. In this age, the prospect of development has no longer been concerned with the geographical remoteness of a particular working hard to leave a good legacy behind, a peaceful, tranquil, and developed nation.

The Tatmadaw government has thus added Taninthayi Division to the zones covered in the development project. In Table M are the endeavourours the Tatmadaw government has made in Taninthayi Division.

Table N

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>1988</th>
<th>12-2-05</th>
<th>Progress</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Urban development</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- urban road miles</td>
<td>1103</td>
<td>2587</td>
<td>1484</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- miles of tarred road</td>
<td>340</td>
<td>1607</td>
<td>1267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- miles of gravelled road</td>
<td>22/1</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>243</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- bridges in urban area</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>712</td>
<td>712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water supply task</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Town in which tasks to be done</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>completed work</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural development</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- Rural road</td>
<td>1045</td>
<td>720/1</td>
<td>615/4</td>
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<tr>
<td>- tarred road</td>
<td>22/0</td>
<td>355/0</td>
<td>333/0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- gravelled road</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>181/2</td>
<td>181/2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- bridges in rural area</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>228</td>
<td>228</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water supply tasks</td>
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<td>- village in which tasks to be</td>
<td>672</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>250</td>
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<td>done completed work</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>298</td>
<td>298</td>
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Table K

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<th>Subject</th>
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<td>upgrading of hospital health units</td>
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<td>- health staff</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- doctors</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- nurses</td>
<td>86</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- midwives</td>
<td>503</td>
<td>952</td>
<td>449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- skilled staff</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- township health assistant</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- health assistant-1</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- health assistant</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- supervisor (1/2)</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>traditional medicine</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>- traditional medicine hospital</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- traditional medicine dispensary</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>8</td>
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<td>- nurse training school</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- midwifery school</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The sustainable development areas and national races

It is the rule of law and order as well as regional stability that can bring with it prosperity. The government wants every region to enjoy equitable development. Therefore, it is Table M, and in Table K.

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Area.

The sustainable development areas and national races

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Area.

The sustainable development areas and national races

It is the rule of law and order as well as regional stability that can bring with it prosperity. The government wants every region to enjoy equitable development. Therefore, it is Table M, and in Table K.

Area.
US does too little to improve Guantanamo prison

Geneva, 7 Feb — The United States has done too little to improve treatment of prisoners at its Guantanamo Bay naval base and risks doing more harm than good in the battle against terror, UN human rights investigators said.

In a joint statement, six inspectors voiced fresh concern at reports of inhuman and degrading treatment of inmates at Guantanamo, saying the global fight against terrorism would be weakened if countries failed to uphold basic legal protections.

“The right and duty of all states to use all lawful means to protect their citizens against death and destruction brought about by terrorists must be exercised in conformity with international law, lest the whole cause of the international fight against terrorism be compromised,” the UN experts said.

Recent moves, including the “Combatant Status Review Tribunals” created by the Pentagon last year following a Supreme Court rebuke and the release of four Britons and an Austrian held as terrorism suspects, were “insufficient to dispel the serious concerns” over conditions, the inspectors added.

At Guantanamo, there was “the need to objectively assess the allegations of torture, and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, particularly in relation to methods of interrogation of detainees.”

The statement noted that many Guantanamo inmates had been held virtually incomunicado for nearly three years, without legal advice or information about how long they were likely to remain incarcerated. Most did not know whether criminal charges would be laid against them.

More than 540 al-Qaeda suspects and accused Taliban fighters are being held at the remote base on the southeastern tip of Cuba after the 2001 invasion of Afghanistan and from operations in the US war on terrorism.

MNA/Reuters

Turkish parties, NGOs protest Rice’s visit

ANKARA, 7 Feb — Several Turkish political parties and non-government organizations on Saturday staged a protest against US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice’s upcoming visit to Turkey, the Anatolia news agency reported.

The protesters walked to the US Embassy in Ankara and left a black wreath at the entrance of the embassy, chanting slogans and carrying banners of “US out of Iraq! Rice out of Turkey”.

Dozens of members of the Turkish Communist Party (ODP), Workers’ Party (EMEP), Socialist Democracy Party (SDP), Turkish Union of Engineers and Architects (TMMOB) and Confederation of Public Sector Unions (KESK) joined the rally.

While delivering a speech, TMMOB Chairman Mehmet Soganci said the United States has been pursuing a diplomacy of war in the region for the past 15 days.

“Rice’s visit to Turkey is a new step in establishing a lake of blood in the Middle East. Condoleezza Rice is a symbol of the American tyranny forced on the peoples of the region,” said Soganci.

“When peoples of the world are getting poorer due to global attacks and national economies are shrinking, the United States wants to make military operations and occupations permanent based on its imperialistic policies,” said Soganci.

Turkish rights activists detainted four protesters in the capital city on Saturday.

MNA/Xinhua

Guantanamo detainee plans to sue British Government

London, 7 Feb — Martin Mubanga, a British terror suspect freed after almost three years at Guantanamo Bay, is planning to use the British Government over his arrest, detention and transfer to Guantanamo, The Observer reported on Sunday.

Martin Mubanga, who holds dual British and Zambian nationality, claimed in the newspaper that an MI6 officer played a key role in consigning him to the US camp in Cuba, following his arrest in Zambia in 2002.

Mubanga’s lawyer Louise Christian said the arrest, detention and transfer of his client had clearly breached British, Zambian and international laws. “We are hoping to issue proceedings for the misuse of officials who colluded with the Americans in effectively kidnapping him and taking him to Guantanamo,” she said.

A Foreign Office spokesman said he could not comment on the activities of British intelligence or security agencies.

The 32-year-old was one of four Britons released from the US detention camp last month. He was immediately arrested on his return to Britain and questioned by anti-terrorist police officers before he was released without charge.

Mubanga described in The Observer how he was interviewed for hours in Guantanamo while his hands and ankles were chained. He also recalled how an interrogator locked him in a cell, ordered him to urinate in the corner of an interview room while chained hand and foot.

MNA/Xinhua

Pope John Paul continues church, all humanity

Rome, 7 Feb — Pope John Paul, looking weak and barely able to talk, appeared at his hospital window on Sunday for the first time since he was taken ill and said through an aide that he was still “serving the Church and all humanity”.

The 84-year-old Pope, rushed to hospital last Tuesday with breathing problems caused by the flu, made a brief appearance from the window of his 10th floor suite in Rome’s Gemelli Hospital.

At the end of a message read by an aide, the Pope delivered his blessing in a voice that was faint, hoarse and cracking. Clerics thought he had made the sign of the cross.

At the start he was wheeled to the window while seated and wore his traditional white cassock and mitre. His face looked red and his eyes distant as he waved slowly to the faithful.

MNA/Reuters

18 die of gas heater malfunction in Spanish hostel

Spanish (Spain), 7 Feb — Eighteen friends who rented a Spanish mountain hostel for a birthday party were found dead on Sunday, apparently killed by a gas leak, officials said.

It was the worst death toll in a gas leak in Spain in at least 15 years, Spanish media reports said.

The bodies were found at the remote Sant Cristofol hostel near the picturesque medieval village of La Todella, some 300 kilometres (180 miles) east of Madrid.

“The area was totally devastated. It’s terrible,” Alcira de Miguel, an official in the Valencian regional government, told state radio. She said the 18 dead were aged between 22 and 40.

About 50 people, all from the local area, had gone to the birthday party at the hostel on Saturday night and the dead had stayed the night there.

The dead were all from nearby villages in an economy depressed area where everybody knows each other.

De Miguel said the deaths were apparently due to a malfunction of a gas heater that the partygoers had taken with them to warm up a cold night.

MNA/Reuters
Panglong hails Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 8 Feb—A ceremony to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention was held in Panglong, Loilem District, Shan State (South) on 5 Feb. 43rd Meeting Chairman Joint Secretary of Loilem District USDA U Yi Thant gave a speech.

Loilem District USDA Secretary U Myo Min Aung discussed in honour of the Union Day, Loilem District USDA Executive U Khin Maung Thi in support of the National Convention and Loilem District USDA Executive Daw Khin Yu Yu Win in support of the rural development tasks.

Panglong USDA Executive Daw Nang Mya Ohn seconded the three motions.

USDA members of six townships and two towns in Loilem District, local authorities, departmental personnel, members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, organizations for Women’s Affairs, Red Cross, Auxiliary Fire Brigades and War Veterans Organization and local people numbering over 2,200 attended the meeting unanimously hailed the Union Day, and supported the National Convention and rural development tasks.

The meeting concluded with chanting of slogans.

Mass rally in Maubin District honours Union Day, supports National Convention

YANGON, 8 Feb—Maubin District held a mass rally to hail the Union Day and support the National Convention in Inma Model Village in Pantanaw Township, Maubin District, Ayeyawady Division this morning.

It was attended by secretaries, executives and members of USDA from the district, townships and villages, members of War Veterans Organizations, Women’s Affairs Committee, Maternal and Child Welfare organizations, Red Cross and Auxiliary Fire Brigades and local people numbering over 7,000.

Secretary of Maubin District USDA U Win Naing Kyaw presided over the meeting together with Pantanaw Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Than Than Myint, Danuphyu Township WAC Chairperson Daw Hla Hla Sein, Captain Khin Maung Myint (Retd) of Nyaungdon Township War Veterans Organization and Mahn Htay Lwin of Pantanaw Township.

When the meeting chairman announced the mass rally those present saluted the State Flag.

Next, Secretary of Maubin District USDA U Win Naing Kyaw made an opening speech.

Matters on honouring the Union Day, hailing the National Convention and regional development tasks were presented.

Next, Pantanaw Township USDA Executive Daw Yin Yin Nwe seconded the motions.

The mass rally hailed the Union Day and supported the National Convention.

The rally ended with the chanting of slogans.

Information and photographs provided by the Union Boat and relay teams to Hlegu City Hall to the four districts in Yangon Division.

Pantawon PDC Chairman Lt-Col Myat Min. He next carried the flag and put it in the silver bowl on the Union Boat.

The Union Flag was conveyed by the Union Boat. Along the route to its destination, the flag was accorded warm welcome by hundreds of people from Kyauktada, Papedan, Lammadaw, Dagon, Sanguaung, Kamayut, Hlaing, Mayangon, Insein, Mingaladon and Hlegu townships, including USDA members, those of social organizations. When the flag arrived at the archway of Hlegu Township, Lt-Col Myat Min handed it over to Hlegu township PDC Chairman U Khin Maung Win.

After being carried by the relay teams, the flag was handed over again to Yangon North District PDC member-1 U Thein Naing, who presented it to Lt-Col Myat Min. He next planted the flag in the silver bowl on the dasi of Hlegu Township playground at 9:25 am.

At the playground, booths of industrial zones and government departments are kept open to the people, numbering over 28,000.

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The 20-year-old striker got Atletico off to a flying start at the Nou Camp when he guided home in the first minute after a stunning back-heeled assist from playmaker Ariel Ibagaza.

The race for the title has effectively become a two-horse affair with Real nine points clear of champions Valencia, who were held 0-0 at the Bernabeu with the sides to meet at the Mestalla on Saturday. The race for the title has effectively become a two-horse affair with Real nine points clear of champions Valencia, who were held 0-0 at the Bernabeu with the sides to meet at the Mestalla on Saturday.

Wimbledon champion Maria Sharapova can't wait for a record fifth title at the $1.3-million-US-dollar event.

Ariel Ibagaza. 7-10 at home.

She did in her semi-final loss to Serena Williams at the event. Her left leg heavily bandaged, Davenport could not quite match her rival's performance against an aggressive 18-year-old from Uruguay, a surprise injury victim.

Davenport was holding back to the last set tiebreak 7-5 and halted Davenport's bid to win her first career grand slam. The result gave Milan 48 points from 23 matches. Juveniles are on 0 after losing 1-0 at Palermo on Saturday. Milan appeared to be on the verge of their third defeat in four matches when Massimo Oddo put Lazio ahead from the penalty spot in the 56th minute following Jaap Stam's foul on Tommaso Rocchi. With 18 minutes remaining, however, a superb 30-metre free kick by European Footballer of the Year Andriy Shevchenko put the hosts level.

In the final set, Milan besieged the Lazio goal, Cafu and Stam blazing shots narrowly over the bar and Lazio keeper Angelpero Peruzzi smoothering a Crespo header at his near post. It seemed the visitors would hold out for a point, but in the fourth minute of stoppage time, Crespo sealed a last-gasp victory by poking home the rebound after a Kaka shot struck the post.

The 10-man Racing Santander players fought back to take the second as Sharapova's errors were punished by a deflected drive early in the second half and substitute Julio Baptista completed the win with a 25-metre free kick five minutes from time.

Barca's first home loss of the season

MADRID, 7 Feb — Atletico Madrid threw the Spanish title race wide open on Sunday when a Fernando Torres double consigned Barcelona to a 2-0 defeat, their first home loss of the season.

With 18 minutes to go, the Argentine midfielder hooked a pass over the defence with his heel to give Torres a free run on goal and the striker outpaced defender Carlos Puyol before threading the ball past Valdes inside the far post.

Barca threw players forward in search of an equalizer, but were thwarted by the watertight Atletico defence and they grew increasingly frustrated as their constant stream of attacks failed to pay off and Samuel Eto'o and the lively Ronaldo were reduced to trying their luck with long-range efforts.
China develops new vaccine capable of preventing bird flu

BEIJING, 8 Feb — China’s Agriculture Ministry said its scientists have developed a new vaccine to prevent the spread of the killer bird flu, Monday’s China Daily reported.

The ministry said that the new vaccine can effectively “cut a key link in the transmission chain of the highly pathogenic avian influenza among water fowl.”

China Daily 5

5.8.6

6.1

6.2

6.3

8.10

8.20

8:30 am

9. International news

8:45 am

10. Let’s go

4:00 pm

1. Martial song

4:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

4:30 pm

3. Practice in Reading

4:45 pm

5. Musical programme

5:00 pm

6. Song of national races

5:45 pm

7. Business news

8:00 pm

8. News

19. International news

20. Weather report

21. Daily weather

22. Discovery

6:30 pm

11. Evening news

7:00 pm

12. Weather report

7:05 pm

13. Musical programme

7:15 pm

14. Strong and Healthy Myanmar

7:30 pm

15.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

5:30 pm

16.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

6:00 pm

17.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

6:15 pm

18.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

6:30 pm

19.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

7:00 pm

20.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

7:00 pm

21.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

7:00 pm

22.  invalidate light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

7:00 pm

23.  the next day’s programme.

OPEC will not cut output above $37 a barrel

SINGAPORE, 8 Feb — Crude prices eased downward Monday amid talk that OPEC will retain current output levels even as prices stay above $37 per barrel.

Light, sweet crude for March delivery fell 37 cents to 46.13 dollars a barrel on the New York Mercantile Exchange, in mid-morning electronic trading in Asia. Heating oil prices also fell by less than a cent to 1.2630 US dollars a gallon (3.8 litres).

“The downward trend will continue,” said Victor Shum, oil analyst at Purvin & Gertz, an energy consulting agency.

“But traders will always look for opportunities,” he said.

The US National Weather Service expects warmer-than-normal weather from February to September in the Northeast, where 80 per cent of the country’s home heating oil is burned. The mild weather is allowing refineries to concentrate on building gasoline inventories, in preparation for the peak summer travel season.

MNA/AP

Weather Tuesday, 8 February, 2005

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been generally fair in the whole country. Night temperatures were (3°C to (4°C) below normal in Kayah State, upper Sagaing and Yangon Divisions, (5°C) to (6°C) below normal in Shan and Chin States, (5°C) above normal in Tanintharyi Division and about normal in the remaining areas. The significant night temperatures were Haka (1°C), Lashio and Heho (2°C) each, Namgam and Pinaung (3°C) each.

Maximum temperature on 7-2-2005 was 99°F. Minimum temperature on 8-2-2005 was 58°F. Relative humidity at 9:30 hrs MST on 8-2-2005 was 59%. Total sunshine hours on 7-2-2005 was 8.9 hours approx. Rainfalls on 8-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Total rainfalls since 1-2-2005 were nil at Yangon Airport, Kaba-Aye and central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was 4 mph from NorthWest at (15:30) hours MST on 7-2-2005.

Bay influence: Weather is generally fair in the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 9-2-2005: Except for the possibility of isolated light rain in the lower and middle Yangon and Sittwe areas and upper Sagaing Division, weather will be generally fair in the remaining areas. Degree of certainty is 80%.

State of the sea: Sea will be slight to moderate in Myanmar waters.

Look for subsequent two days: Possibility of isolated light rain in upper Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring area for 9-2-2005: Fair weather.


Earthquake report

(Issued at 15:00 hours MST on Today)

An earthquake of moderate intensity (5.4) Richter Scale with its epicenter inside of Myanmar about (300) miles North of Kaba-Aye seismological observatory was recorded at (13) hrs (52) min (14) sec MST on 8th February, 2005.

British Govt to propose points system for migrant workers

LONDON, 8 Feb — The British Government will propose an Australian-style points system for migrant workers, trying to regain the upper hand on an issue.

A poll on Sunday showed an attack by the opposition Conservative Party on what it calls a chaotic asylum and immigration system had struck a chord with the public. Hitting back, the government will unveil plans on Monday for a points scheme for migrants to screen out unskilled workers and will announce fresh efforts to deport bogus asylum seekers.

“Migration for work, migration to study is a good thing. What is wrong is when that system isn’t properly policed, and people are coming here who are a burden on the society,” Home Secretary Charles Clarke told BBC Television on Sunday. — MNA/Reuters
Four economic objectives

- Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Senior General Than Shwe pays homage to Historic Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine

Yangon, 8 Feb—Chairman of the State Peace and Development Council Commander-in-Chief of Defence Services Senior General Than Shwe, accompanied by members of the State Peace and Development Council General Thura Shwe Mann, Lt-Gen Maung Bo, Lt-Gen Thiha Thura Tin Aung Myint Oo and Lt-Gen Tin Aye, Commander-in-Chief (Navy) Vice-Admiral Soe Thein, Commander-in-Chief (Air) and Lt-Gen Myat Hein, Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thura Myint Aung, the ministers, senior military officers and officials, paid homage to historic Kyaikthanlan Pagoda in Mawlamyine on 6 February evening.

First, Senior General Than Shwe and party paid homage to the Buddha Image at the prayer hall.

Next, Senior General Than Shwe made cash donations towards the pagoda board of trustees.

Senior General Than Shwe and party viewed documentary photos of the pagoda.

Later, they visited the pagoda clock-wise and looked the scenic views of Mawlamyine from the precinct of the pagoda.

58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition opened

Yangon, 8 Feb—The 58th Anniversary Union Day Exhibition was opened at the Tatmadaw Convention Hall on U Wisara Road this morning, attended by Chairman of Central Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day Secretary-1 of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Thein Sein.

The exhibition was opened with the following objectives— for all national races to safeguard the national policy-non-disintegration of the Union, non-disintegration of national solidarity and perpetuation of sovereignty—to keep the Union spirit ever alive and dynamic among the national people— for all national people to defend and safeguard the Union spirit for its perpetual existence—to prevent, through national solidarity, the danger of internal and external destructive elements undermining peace and stability of the State and national development and—for all national races to make concerted efforts for successful implementation of the seven point future polity programme.

Also present were the ministers, members of Central Committee for Observance of the 58th Anniversary Union Day, Chairman of Information Sub-committee and Exhibition Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein, officials of the State Peace and Development Council Chairman’s Office, heads of departments, members of cultural troupe, Union Solidarity and Development Association, social organizations, teachers, students and guests.

Chairman of Information Sub-committee and Exhibition Sub-committee Deputy Minister for Information Brig-Gen Aung Thein formally opened the Union Day Exhibition.

The Secretary-1 and guests observed central booth, booths on ancient Myanmar, traditional culture and customs of the national people, emergence of the Union Day and regaining independence and modern developed nation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation, Ministry of Industry-1, Ministry of Forestry, Ministry of Energy, Ministry of Communications, Posts and Telegraphs, Ministry of Electric Power, Ministry of Progress of Border Areas and National Races (See page 6)

“Whatever difficulties the nation is facing, the united strength, and the strength, which comes out from the firm community peace and stability and the rule of law, are of vital importance for the nation. And the two strengths will enable the nation to overcome all kinds of difficulties it is facing.”

(Page 8) THA AUNG

Secretary-1 Lt-Gen Thein Sein views a booth staged at the 58th Anniversary Union Day (2005) commemorative exhibition.—mna